

Bomb scare at O'Leary



Photo by Robert Harris Blatt

O'Leary Library, above, was the site of a bomb scare last Tuesday.

by Rob Velella
Connector Editor

A bomb threat was made to south campus's O'Leary Library on Tuesday, March 26. A student worker answered the telephone around 6:00 p.m. and an unidentified voice said the word "bomb" several times.

UMass Lowell police were

quick to respond, first evacuating the building. Officers then secured the building and searched every floor.

After approximately one hour, library patrons were allowed back into the building.

An anonymous witness said she was surprised by the whole ordeal. "It's hard to believe that anyone would target UMass Lowell's library of all things,"

she said. "I knew it couldn't be anything serious."

Even so, the police were called on-scene to verify that there was nothing to worry about. Every floor was searched, and no signs of danger were found.

A little over six months after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, all bomb threats are still taken very seriously across the nation.

The last well-known bomb scare on campus occurred in March of 1999. An object resembling a pipe bomb was found in Southwick Hall around 6:15 p.m. Campus police, Lowell police, Lowell fire and the State

Bomb Squad came to investigate. The object had been left on a desk by a professor who later revealed it was holder for his laser pointer.

No bomb squad was sent to O'Leary last week.

Incidentally, both the recent bomb scare and the one in 1999 occurred in late March around the same time of day.

Improvements at Lydon

by Marion Muskiewicz,
Ellen MJ Keane
and John Callahan
Library Representatives

Students returning from Spring Break 2002 are seeing some big changes in the Lydon Library.

New carpeting throughout the first floor and a newly redesigned Reference Room has created a more open and inviting study space. The Reference collection is now arranged in 11 easily navigable aisles. New study tables and chairs are already on order. Soft furniture is also being purchased to create a lounge area on the first floor. New window treatments are expected to make the area even more attractive to library visitors.

The Electronic Reference Center has taken on a new and cleaner look with the installation of 30 new Dell computers for public use and library instruction. Students will appreciate fast 1.5 Ghz Pentium 4 processors and 100 Mb switched network connections. All computers feature 250Mb zip drives for downloading files and offer free printing to the Library's networked printers. The Library has pre-programmed the 3 special keyboard buttons which will open up to the student e-mail server, the UML libraries homepage, and the Google search engine for

easy connection to these locations.

A quick trip to the fourth floor of Lydon will reveal even more changes. The carpet is already in place and plans are being finalized to create a more comfortable group study area for students. Plans include new tables, chairs, large white boards, and both wired and wireless network connections to connect laptops to the campus network.

None of this work would have been possible without the coordinated and well-planned efforts of librarians and facilities staff who worked together to dismantle and reassemble the entire first floor of Lydon in one short week.

Joseph Caulfield, Assistant to the Provost, worked closely with librarians as well as library staff members, including Donna Beausoleil and Jason Kramer, to ensure that the Reference collection and the computer areas would be ready for students returning from Spring Break. Caulfield also coordinated removal and replacement of furniture, reference books, and metal book shelves with Norman LeClair whose facilities crew's efforts made sure that the work accomplished on time. The Library extends its heartfelt appreciation to this enthusiastic and helpful team.

Originally, the Library had planned to remain open during

See LYDON, cont'd on page 2.

Celebrating Dickens in America at UML

by Sean Conway
Connector Staff

From Thursday, April 4, through Saturday, April 6, the University of Massachusetts Lowell will host the highly anticipated *Dickens and America: Literature, Industry, and Culture*, an event-filled conference celebrating the 160th anniversary of Charles' Dickens' visit and tour of the city of Lowell.

It was on Feb. 3, 1842 that the famous Victorian author visited the city during his six-month tour of America.

The three-day event will feature panel discussions, work-

shops, readings, and performances, involving some of the world's premiere Dickens scholars. A highlight of the conference will undoubtedly be the performances of actor Gerald Dickens, great-great grandson of the famed author. Gerald Dickens will share with Lowell variations of his one-man show, in which he portrays his literary ancestor.

On Thursday, April 4, Gerald Dickens will be performing selections of Charles Dickens' writings from his journey across America in the morning. Then, in the evening, he will perform the World Premiere of *The Republic of My Imagination*. Friday evening, April 5, he per-

forms *A Child's Journey with Dickens*, and Saturday evening, April 6, the conference is closed with his World Premiere performance of *Mr. Dickens is Coming!*

The Off-Broadway Players will be unveiling their new production of Charles Dickens' *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, to coincide with the conference.

Professor Diana Archibald, Conference Director, says that the conference has garnered world-wide attention, having received inquiries "from as far away as India."

The conference is not restricted to the University campus. It is being shared with the entire

See DICKENS, cont'd on p. 2.

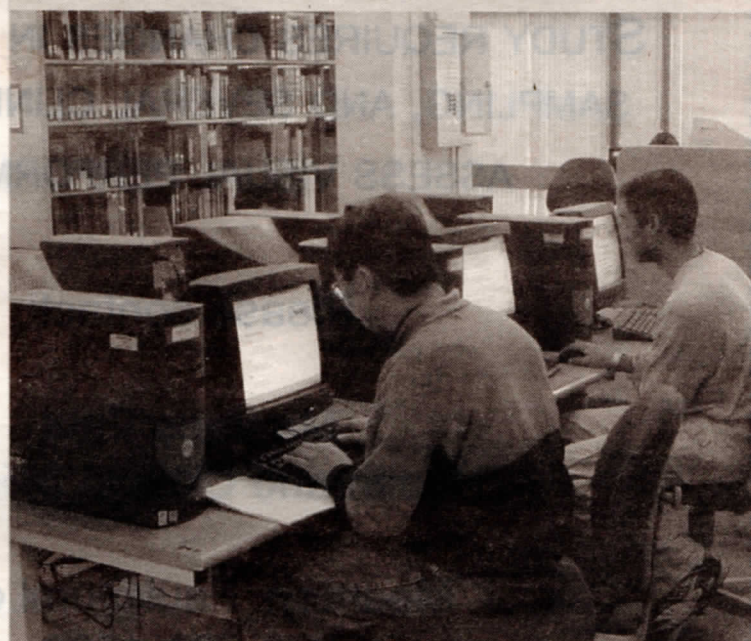


Photo by Kevin Gentile

Students take advantage of brand new Dell computers at Lydon Library.

Weather Forecast for the Lowell Area, April 2-5

Student Meteorologists: Kristen Kerouac & Shaun O'Brien

Tuesday:

Fairly nice day, though partly cloudy. Highs around mid-50s. Lows in mid-30s.

Wednesday:

Spring showers very likely, with highs just under 60. Late night lows close to freezing.

Thursday:

Clouds still lingering in the sky. Highs will be in upper 40s range. Below freezing at night.

Friday:

Coldest day of the week. Some clouds in the sky, with highs only in mid 40s. Lowells around 26.

This forecast is brought to you by the students of the UMass Lowell Weather Center. For weather updates throughout the week, or to learn more about our program, visit <http://storm.uml.edu>. When away from a computer, hear our regularly updated forecast on our weather hotline at ext. 3999.

News from DC

USS Roosevelt Receives Hero's Welcome

by Mariel Tejada
Connector Correspondent

After 189 days at sea, the USS Theodore Roosevelt returned to port in Norfolk, VA on Wednesday morning to a crowd of thousands of family and friends on shore.

The aircraft carrier deployed to the Arabian Sea on September 19, 2001, with a crew of approximately 5,500 personnel. Upon arrival, sailors dropped a banner over the railing that read "Freedom Endures."

Many of the family and friends were decorated with flowers, flags and gifts for the homecoming. For some of the men, their greatest gift was meeting their children that were born during their deployment. Another banner hanging from the ship read, "Ashley McGee, will you marry me?"

The USS Roosevelt was the first to be deployed following the September 11th terrorist attacks. It is the first of five ships scheduled to return to port this week.

Mariel Tejada is corresponding to the Connector from Washington, D.C.

More Violence in the Middle East

by Mariel Tejada
Connector Correspondent

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat proclaimed Thursday that he is ready to accept CIA director George Tenet's cease-fire plan. Arafat said that he "would like to reiterate our readiness for an immediate cease-fire."

Arafat's declaration came just a day after a Palestinian suicide bomber detonated explosives at a hotel in Netanya, Israel on Wednesday night. The attack left at least 21 dead, and 170 more wounded.

Israeli officials are calling this the 'Passover Massacre.' The explosion took place at the Park Hotel as Israelis gathered for the traditional Seder meal marking the start of Passover. Arafat's proclamation came as Palestinians prepared for retaliation in the West Bank and Gaza. President Bush, however, remains hopeful.

At a conference in Texas on Thursday, Bush stated, "I know in the Middle East it looks like there will never be peace. But I can assure you, we're not going to give up."

DICKENS, cont'd from page 1.

community of Lowell by way of tours through the Boott Cotton Mills Museum, the American Textile History Museum, and the New England Quilt Museum, as well as a concert at the historic St. Anne's Episcopal Church, and a Gerald Dickens performance at Lowell High School.

Although the conference and its events are costly, UMass Lowell students have the rare advantage of being able to attend many of these events for free or for very affordable fees. To find out more about the conference, visit www.uml.edu/Dickens, or e-mail Conference Director Dr. Archibald at Diana_Archibald@uml.edu.

LYDON, cont'd from page 1.

Spring Break. Unfortunately, this proved impossible due to the large amounts of furniture and carpeting stacked on the floor. We apologize for any inconvenience this unscheduled closing may have caused. A fine amnesty period has been declared for two weeks, from March 25 to April 7. Overdue books returned during this time will not have fines charged against them, no matter how long ago they were due.

Come by Lydon Library and check out the new look.

CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

Tidbits of News from Other Colleges and Universities

Compiled by Rob Velella
Connector Editor

College of the Mainland

David Michael Smith, a government professor at College of the Mainland, a 3,000-student community college in Texas, was granted tenure recently and students and local residents aren't happy about it. Smith is a self-described Marxist, known for criticizing the U.S. government. He was approved unanimously for tenure, despite many protestors coming to the open meeting. Some accused him of brainwashing students to follow his beliefs. Smith says his freedom to express his divergent views is the precise reason why tenure exists.

Florida State University

12 students who had protesting against sweatshops at Florida State University were arrested after camping out in front of the main administrative building. However, protests continued throughout the week, though relocated to a "designated free speech area" - which many of the participating students consider a violation of their Constitutional rights. The students are members of an on-campus organization known as United Students Against Sweatshops and are asking the University to affiliate themselves with a college consortium that has taken a stand against sweatshops.

Temple University

Martin Eisen, a tenured math professor at Temple University, was recently fired for holding his academic standards a bit too high. He was accused of being too difficult in grading, failing many students with no remorse, refusing to give additional help to students, and not updating his teaching methods in three decades. Eisen has filed a lawsuit against the University, claiming his free speech and due process rights were ignored. He also accused some colleagues of asking him to commit academic fraud by inflating grades.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FOR STUDY OF DIET AND VISION

STIPEND PAID

STUDY REQUIRES CHANGES IN DIET, BLOOD SAMPLING, AND SEVERAL CLINIC VISITS TO ASSESS VISUAL PERFORMANCE

Please contact:

Maureen Faul
Health and Clinical Science

Maureen_Faul@uml.edu
978-934-4502

Chancellor Hogan's Open Meeting Hours

Next meeting: April 10

Trustees' Room,
Cumnock Hall, North Campus

The meeting is broken down
according to the following times:

Staff Hour 2:00 - 3:00
Student Hour 3:00 - 4:00
Faculty Hour 4:00 - 5:00

Come voice your concerns to the Chancellor!

Now Open!!!!

Tene's Coffee Cafe

149 University Avenue, Lowell - Just One Block from North Campus

Fresh-Brewed Gourmet Coffee in 6 Delicious Flavors!!

Freshly Baked Muffins & Bagels,
We carry donuts from "Eat-A-Donut"



10% Discount with your UMass Lowell Student I.D.!

Visit us Today!

Hours: Monday thru Friday, 5:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 6:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Connector April 2nd Edition

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UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION SENIORS!

Announcing SENIOR WEEK 2002 events!

Monday, May 20: Red Sox vs. Chicago White Sox (cost \$10 per ticket)

Tuesday, May 21: NYC Day Trip (cost \$15 per person)

Wednesday, May 22: Improv Asylum with dinner at Mother Anna's Restaurant (cost \$30 per person including dinner)

Thursday, May 23: Odyssey Cruise (cost \$40 per person including dinner)

You can get your tickets at 10% off on Tuesday, April 16th from 11am-1pm in North Campus Commuter Lounge as well as on Thursday, April 18th from 11am-1pm in South Campus Dining Area! Tickets will be on sale to Seniors only from April 16th to April 26th, the weeks following April 26th, they will be available to the general university community.

Also, mark your calendar for the Senior Brunch will be on May 10th from 9:30am-11:30am in Cumnock Hall. You will be able to get your cap and gown at the Senior Brunch or at the bookstore on the campus of your major!

We look forward to seeing you at all the Senior Class events!

Colleen Brady, Michelle Lussier, and Dawn Ames
Your Class of 2002 Officers

Pull some rank...

Do you want to be the single voice of UMass Lowell to the Board of Trustees? You serve on the Executive Board and Emergency Committee and act as a liaison between the Board of Trustees and the students of UMass Lowell.

Look for more information about applying for this position when SGA election information comes out. If you have any questions about this position, please call the Student Government Association at x5004 or the Office of Student Activities, Student Centers, and Commuter Services at x5001.

University of Massachusetts,
Lowell



ALANA

Presents:



CULTURALFEST

When: April 4th, 2002

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Cumnock Hall

Come sample the
cultural food, music and dance.

Admission is FREE!

Questions: call x4336

The English Department is saddened by the news that Professor Emeritus Arthur Friedman lost his lengthy battle with Parkinson's disease On February 19, 2002.

To honor Arthur and his years of dedicated service to our students, the Department has established the Arthur Friedman Scholarship Fund. If you wish to make a contribution in

Arthur's memory, please send your check to University of Massachusetts Lowell, Office of University Advancement, 600 Suffolk St, Lowell, MA 01854. Please make the check payable to the Arthur Friedman Scholarship Fund.

For additional information, please contact the English Department Office at 978-934-4182.

TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT:

The Connector offers space for FREE for any University-based organization, provided space is available. If you're interested in announcing your program, lecture, meeting, or whatever else, simply e-mail connector@uml.edu or call us at (978) 934-5009.

Questions? Comments? Story ideas? Feedback?
Connector@uml.edu

Attention Clubs and Organizations!

Spring Carnival is right around the corner!

Be sure to attend one of the following meetings to make sure your club can get in on the fun!

April 1, 2002 in McGauvran Student Union Room 410 From 3pm-4pm

April 2, 2002 in McGauvran Student Union Room 410 From 3pm-4pm

Get your nominees in for Student Leader Awards!

Recognize your peers for their efforts in areas like Community Service Projects, Program of the Year, and Student Leader of the Year!

All nomination forms are due in the Office of Student Activities, Student Centers and Commuter Services by 5:00 pm on April 5, 2002.

Also, bring pictures of your club and its events to the Office of Student Activities!

Scholarship Opportunity!

Have you made unique contributions to the University Community?

Have you promoted a healthy learning environment and support the diversity of our campus? Do you have a GPA of 2.5 or higher?

Then you should apply for the **Matthew James Drouin Scholarship** which is available to all Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors with a GPA of 2.5 or higher who meet the above criteria, applications were sent by mail and are available through the Office of Student Activities, Student Center and Commuter Services in McGauvran Student Union Room 224. Completed applications are due with 2 supporting letters to the above office by 5:00 pm on April 5, 2002.

Fatherhood Coalition - Methuen Chapter

Politics the Main Stream Media Won't Show You

Please join us to learn more about Shared Parenting, the new Massachusetts Child Support Guidelines and hear Carla Howell, Libertarian candidate for Massachusetts Governor talk about Small Government and ending the state income tax.

April 8, 2002 7-9:30 p.m.

Coburn Hall - South Campus

For more info call (978)659-9354 or (603)898-1408

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Policy

General: The *Connector* is a non-profit student public forum serving the University of Massachusetts Lowell community. The paper is published weekly and distributed free to the university community every Tuesday. Business hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

All UMass Lowell students, regardless of major, are invited to join the *Connector* staff. Interested students should contact an editor or manager listed above, or visit the *Connector* Office in Fox Suite 426.

Advertising: The *Connector* advertisements reach an estimated 14,000 UMass Lowell students—their friends and families. To tap this group of future high-income earners, contact our Advertising Manager at 934-5009. Advertisements discriminating against race, gender, age, religion, physical ability, or sexual preference will not be accepted. **DEADLINE for ALL advertising (TO INCLUDE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS and ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES OF THE UNIVERSITY) is Tuesday, 12 p.m. for the following Tuesday's publication. No exceptions will be made. Late submissions WILL NOT be accepted.**

Classified advertisements are free for students.

Editorial: Letters to the editors should be less than 500 words in length and may be submitted via campus mail, e-mail, or in person. All letters must bear the author's name, relationship to the University and student body, phone number, and signature. The author may request to have any part of this information withheld, if published. Opinions expressed in individual columns, the Opinions Section, advertising, and/or features are those of the author, NOT of the *Connector*. The Opinions and Letters section will not be edited in any way, to include spelling/grammar mistakes.

Submission: All article-based submissions (to include Letters to the Editors and Opinions) deadline is Thursday at 5 p.m. for the following Tuesday's publication. Submissions may be dropped off at the *Connector* office on a 3.5" floppy disk. Submissions must be written in a MS Word (6.0) format for Mac. ** Tables, templates, and graphics will not be accepted on disk with text submission. Accompanying visuals must be submitted in hard copy. Submissions may also be sent via e-mail to Connector@uml.edu.

All press releases, articles, advertisements, and photographs submitted become the property of the *Connector* and will not be returned unless requested in advance. The *Connector* reserves the right to edit or refuse all submissions for copy, content, and length.

The *Connector* will make every effort to prevent inaccuracy, but assumes no responsibility for errors in advertisements or columns. The *Connector* will reprint without charge, that part which is incorrect. Credit for errors are made only for first insertion.

The *Connector* is located in Suite 426 of the North Campus Student Union Building (Fox Hall), 100 Pawtucket Street, Lowell, MA 01854. Tel: (978) 934-5009. Fax: (978) 934-3031. E-mail: Connector@uml.edu

OPINIONS & LETTERS

Where does your MassPIRG fee go?

by John Harrison
SGA President

In October of last year I took office as your president and swore to look out for the rights and interests of the students of UMass-Lowell. Although I am your president, today I write to you as a student, specifically a student who has unintentionally paid that \$7.00 MassPIRG fee located on your school bill. Have you ever wondered where that fee really goes? If so, you are not alone. On the direction of several students your student government took the initiative to answer that question. Last year you, the students of UMass Lowell, gave MassPIRG \$52,954.00. This makes MassPIRG the 2nd largest funded student organization on campus, just under your activities commission. For the last six months your elected leaders have been investigating and requesting specific information from our MassPIRG chapter, specifically the financial statements. Although MassPIRG has yet to disclose their budget, the information that has been gathered by your SGA is concerning many of your fellow students, even this president. It is becoming clear where your money goes, and this president does not like the answers received. Do not be fooled by percentages that may be thrown to you by MassPIRG. Any accountant or finance major will tell you that the numbers tell the story. And for the first time in years your student government has been able to uncover more information than ever before. In the upcoming weeks I am confident that many opinions will be formed. You will here a lot of information on the mission of MassPIRG, what their student volunteer work force does, and their accomplishments. Make sure you get all the facts. Become an informed student so you can make an informed decision. It is my intention to make sure you have all the facts so you, as a student of UMass-Lowell, will be able to finally make an informed decision. Look for information to follow. For questions or concerns please contact your student government at (978) 934-5004 or e-mail Uml_SGA@yahoo.com



New Commuter-At-Large

by Joshua Goodchild
SGA Commuter-At-Large

On March 27, 2002, the Student Government Association received an application for appointment to the newly vacant position of Commuter-At-Large. Last year the SGA had designed and implemented a new position in the hopes of furthering the mission of improving life for commuter students on campus. In the March 26 issue of the *Connector*, John Harrison (SGA President) called for a highly motivated individual to come forward to represent the commuters of UMass Lowell. I have answered.

On March 27, the Student Senate met and reviewed my application for appointment to the position of Commuter-At-Large. With great enthusiasm, the SGA accepted and appointed me as Commuter-At-Large. With elections just around the corner, I understand that the next few weeks will be critical for me to show the commuter students that I can and will perform. It is my hope that with my dedication and the assistance of the SGA, I will be able to bring resolution to commuter concerns. If you are a commuter, and have an idea, concern or issues that needs to be resolved. Contact me, (Joshua Goodchild) at (978) 934-5004 or email me at UML_SGA_Commuter@yahoo.com

The opinions expressed on the Opinions/Letters section do not necessarily represent the views of the *Connector* or its staff; rather, they reflect solely upon the author.

Alive and Well: "I'm Late"

by Mike Reidy
Connector Columnist

This past weekend was celebrated with pretty pink and purple pastels. Easter eggs bathed in vinegar and food coloring decorate our refrigerators, and the unused shells strewn about are reminiscent of Christmas wrapping paper. Painstakingly sealed, impulsively discarded. Like love from a woman.

There is a reason I like Easter better than Christmas. Kids actually have to work to earn their loot. Searching for the basket, hunting for hidden eggs. It involves a special mix of common sense and imagination. In addition to this, it gives parents a chance to outsmart their sponge-like children.

I currently lack the brain power to find a correlation between the holy implications of Easter and the wholly commercialized propaganda that encompasses it, so I'll leave that up to you. But sometimes I find it amusing that Easter is symbolized by a nice, big, white rabbit...

I've seen them in the malls. Children come from miles around to talk to it and get their picture taken with it. Some of them even have watches, and it may be a foolish question, but I wonder how often they look to see if they are late...

A bit of girl insight "Asking a Guy Out"

by Susan Kohnle
Connector Columnist

I have noticed quite a few of my guy friends have a difficult time asking out the girls they like. When I asked one of my girlfriends about this, she said it was quiet the other way around, not enough girls ask out guys. With this in mind I have come up with a fail proof way of asking out a guy. You should however not try this when the guy is around his friends.

Guys act very odd around their friends, and this plan will then not be fail proof. Guy friends are a variable that no one ever can account for, so start with a guy who is all alone. Apparently it is important to smile. A smile would most likely show interest and if you are asking this person out you should be interested. Try not to skirt around the issue at hand. Guys are slow on the up take and oblivious at times and if you think you are being crafty by talking about something else so they will ask you out- it will not happen, you have just distracted them away from you.

So be direct remember that this shows honesty and strength, and hopefully you aren't asking out a guy who likes a girl that needs as man to do everything for her. Now if you're being strong forward you should not be nervous of rejection. Being nervous may inhibit your ability to be direct. Certainly stuttering or tripping over your words may confuse or distract the boy you are asking out. Compliment this guy, give him some reassurance that he is the one you are interested in, remember they are a bit slow.

Now if he still doesn't seem to understand that you are asking him out, ask him if he is interested in taking a survey exploring preferences to paper or plastic. If he says yes chances are he is more interested in you than the survey.

Student Government Elections

by John Harrison
SGA President

In the last two semesters there has been a group of dedicated, highly motivated students working to protect the rights and interests of the members of the UMass Lowell student body. These students are your elected members of your Student Government Association (SGA). The UMass Lowell SGA was created with the realization that improvements can be made in the University community, specifically regarding the student body and its members; and that as students we have the obligation, right, and power to work for constructive change; and that this can be best accomplished by organizing our energies and resources.

Since the beginning of this school year your SGA has taken great steps to reorganize its resources and build a powerful, proactive team. The SGA, is in the process of building a "one stop shop for students by students" located in the McGauvran student center, organized and hosted its annual Head Start Christmas party for local children in need, addressed and came to the aid of several students concerning academic and classroom issues, has reorganized and opened up a line of communication between the various clubs on campus, is working with the campus police to address and insure student safety, is working to implement a community hour in hopes of curing the feeling of apathy, and is working to address the concerns of our students.

As the year nears to an end it is time for the SGA to focus on the efforts to continue to move forward into the next school year. Time has come to seek out those who wish to represent our University community. If you have ever wished

you could make a difference in your school, this is where you can make that happen. If you seek to become a leader, this is where you can make that happen. The SGA is looking for you. The SGA is composed of seven senators from each class with the exception of the senior class which has three senators and a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Executive Board of the SGA is composed of the SGA President, Vice-President, Commuter-At-Large, Treasurer, Secretary, Student Trustee and Activities Commission Director. A student must have held a position within the senate before he/she may run for an Executive Board position. The SGA constitution is overseen by the Student Court.

The SGA is looking for you. To be eligible to run for a position you must be a full time undergraduate student of the University, matriculating to the University during the following academic year and has a minimum of 2.0 cumulative GPA. Graduate students may run for Student Trustee. Elections will be held on April 16 and 17 at the North and South campus Student Information Centers between 10 am to 3 pm. Students interested in running for office may pick up there nomination packets starting April 2 at the North and South Student Information Centers. The nomination papers must be returned to the office of Student Activities, located in the McGauvran student center on South Campus, no later than 4:30 pm April 11. Candidates interested in running for class officer or senator positions must obtain 25 signatures from members of their class. Candidates for SGA Executive positions must obtain 125 signatures from the student body at large. Detailed information will be available within your nomination packet. For additional information contact your SGA at (978) 934-5004. Good luck to all.

LIRA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The Learning in Retirement Association, will present this award to two undergraduate students of the University who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service to the greater Lowell Community, through such activities as tutoring, working with the homeless, helping at local events, working in food kitchens. This Award includes a **Certificate of Achievement** and a monetary prize of \$500.

Applications may be obtained at Fox 403 or the Office of Student Activities at the McGauvran Student Center. Applications must be received by April 30, 2002.
E-Mail Katherine Carroll at LIRA416@aol.com for questions.

the Hawk Talk line

The Connector's anonymous survey asking members of the University for their opinions, no holds barred.

This Week's Question:

When you study, where do you like to do it?

Do you do it on your bed?
In the library where it's quiet?
Or outdoors on a nice day?

Leave a voice mail message (keep it fairly short) and we'll print as many responses as we can in our next issue. *Forgot the number?*

It's 978-934-5700.

It's available 24 hours a day, but get those responses in by no later than **Friday at 5:00 PM.**

The Hawk Talk line is sponsored by the UMass Lowell Connector.

ext. 5700

Last Week's Results:

What's your favorite type of test or exam?

"Yes, I would rather do it orally. Yeah! YEAH! Actually, I'd rather have a multiple-choice oral. Oooh!"

"My favorite type of test is a blood test."

"Hi. I would definitely rather do it orally, especially if Rob Velella is administering my exam. Rarr..."

"The second I see one of those Blue Books of Doom, I get really freaked out. Those damn little books are so intimidating. They should be banned, or maybe printed in pretty pink."

"I prefer open-ended questions, because they are easier to bullsh--. I have to admit, though, orally is pretty good too."

"Oral isn't considered the real thing anyway."

Tell us what YOU think! Give us a call at...

934-5700

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please call ext. 5078 or e-mail

spectrumuml@yahoo.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

All the comics in the **Comic Vortex** of the *Connector* are made by UMass Lowell students! That's right! Not one of them receives payment for their artwork! See page 8 for the **Comics Vortex!**

A & E Arts and Entertainment

A dark week for Hollywood

Milton Berle, Dudley Moore and Billy Wilder pass away in of 2 days

by Robert Harris Blatt
Connector Editor

Last week, the entertainment industry lost three gems with the passing of Milton Berle at age 93, Dudley Moore at age 66, and Walter Berry at age 95. The three had contributed a lot to their respective fields and will always be remembered and sadly missed.

Berle passed due to a fight with colon cancer. Born in 1908, the native New Yorker grew up in front of the crowd on the vaudeville stages, which were popular in the early part of

the twentieth century. He helped develop television's popularity with "Texaco Star Theater" which was also named "The Milton Berle Show". He had roles in "It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World" as well as the "Muppet Movie" to name only a few of his achievements. While he did star in movies, most of his contributions will be remembered as being on television, and his usual grin will be missed.

Moore passed after a struggle with progressive supranuclear palsy at the age of 66. While also a competent concert pianist, Moore was most known for his work in film. He played parts



in the original *Bedazzled*, *Foul Play*, *10*, and his most known role was in *Arthur* where he played a immature drunk. That part earned him an academy award nomination.

Berry passed away on Wednesday, March 27th of pneumonia in Beverly Hills. Wilder was the director behind



more than 20 films, which includes *Double Indemnity*, *The Lost Weekend*, *A Foreign Affair*, *Sunset Blvd.*, *Stalag 17*, *Sabrina*, *Witness for the Prosecution*, Marilyn Monroe's *Some Like It Hot* and *The Apartment*. He wrote screen plays for over 60 movies, spanning for 1929 until 1995. Over the course of his lifetime, Wilder has won over 30



various awards, has been nominated for numerous more, which include 21 Academy Awards.

Images courtesy of www.imdb.com

From left to right, Milton Berle, as part of Texaco Star Theater, Dudley Moore, from *Arthur*, and Billy Wilder accepting a lifetime achievement award, all passed away this past week.

Former Ozzy and Mötley



Crue drummer loses fight with cancer

by Robert Harris Blatt
Connector Editor

In another tragic loss to the entertainment community, rock drummer Randy Castillo passed away this past Tuesday after a long battle with cancer. He reportedly passed peacefully.

Castillo's accomplishments included being the drummer for Ozzy Osbourne's band on the albums *No Rest For the Wicked*, *No More Tears*, and *Live and Loud*, along with accompanying

the tours that followed. He also played Ozzy Osbourne's early retirement show in 1993. He joined Mötley Crue, replacing drummer Tommy Lee, for their album *New Tattoo* in 2000 and joined them for their tour with Megadeth and Anthrax. The music industry reeled and gave praise to a drummer often described as infectious and the best in the business.

According to each band's specific website, Ozzy Osbourne said, "I am heartbroken about

the passing of one of my dearest friends. I will see you on the other side, Randy." In addition, Nikki Sixx of Mötley Crue commented, "He was a great caring person and a very spiritual soul. We will miss him so much, we will jam again someday."

If you would like to send a message of regret or convey a story about Randy Castillo, write to P.O. Box 4434, Albuquerque, NM 87196.

Image courtesy of www.motley.com

At left, Randy Castillo, passed away this past week due to cancer.

Stellar cast, less than stellar movie

by Beth Parker
Connector Staff

What could be worse than sitting through two hours of the children's show *Barney*? Give up yet? Go and see *Death of Smoochy* and you will find out. One might think this would be an interesting movie. Danny DeVito directs and acts in it, Robin Williams and Edward Norton star in it, so what could possibly go wrong. Robin Williams does a great job playing the drunk, selfish, money hungry Rainbow Randolph.

Rainbow Randolph has the number one children's show in the network and all the perks that go along with it. He has a run in with the F.B.I. and his career is ruined instantly thanks to the media.

As a result of this humiliating blow to the Network, the top executive's brow beat rating junky executives Marion Frank Stokes and Nora Wells (Jon Stewart and Catherine Keener) for a squeaky clean replacement. Wells is a tough talking morally inept executive who has been hardened by the scandalous world of "easy come easy go"

show business. She finds Sheldon Mopes (played by the multi-faceted Edward Norton) giving a Smoochy performance at a methadone clinic. Sheldon dons a purple rhino suit and delivers messages on the goodness in everyone. Sheldon is a genuinely honest, politically correct, forgiving, naïve doer of good. He does not drink, smoke or eat anything with extra additives or addicting qualities in them. He demands the money he makes at a charity event go to the charity and not sliced from the top by the sponsors. Here he clashes the corrupt world of

marketing and with Wells.

There is nothing wrong with the idea of satirizing television personalities, money hungry agents and corporate executives. It just happens to be BORING when it is put on the screen surrounding a purple rhino.

To add to the previous mayhem of characters is Sheldon's backstabbing agent, Burke Bennett (played by Danny DeVito). Then we have the corporate sponsor Merve Green (Harvey Fierstein) who makes his millions by slicing the top off the cake at charity events for children. Last but not least is the Irish Mob headed by Tommy Cutter (Pam Ferris) and her gang of thugs.

Not all of their scenes were as ridiculous as their introduction. For instance, the first time we meet the Mo Green, I mean Merve Green the camera pans his dark shadow while we hear

Image courtesy of www.imdb.com

At left, Robin Williams assaults a big purple rhino that's adored by kids everywhere, no not UMass Police Sgt. Chester Dupont, but Smoochy, as played by Ed Norton; and all as two midgets and a great looking band look on horrified. Beth didn't like this movie very much, but we all like Sgt. Dupont.

his husky voice threatening Stokes to get him some money. For a second I thought this dark comedy turned into a bad film noir. Secondly, an Irish mafia led by a large brogue talking red-head who succeeds in threatening Sheldon into having her nephew appear in his show. Sheldon does not want to profit from the Smoochy character by marketing product that promote cookies and frosted cereals because he doesn't want to hurt children with all the artificial additives in foods; yet he is willing to hang around with people who take the law into their own hands. Interestingly enough he picks the people who murder for revenge as opposed to the money hungry people who murder for profit.

Smoochy is all natural while Rainbow Randolph (besides have a sexual identity crisis) is artificial coloring. There is a moral to the story if you work in the television business, maybe. For everyone else this movie is like reading the *National Enquirer*. The cast of characters will draw a lot of people to see this movie. The plot will make them anxious to leave.



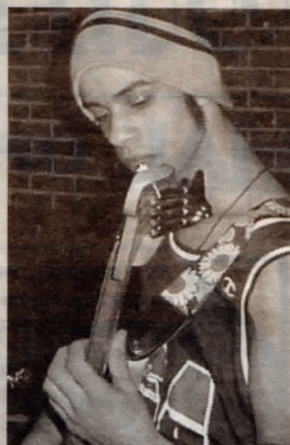
Live from

AMATEUR, SECOND TO MECCA, BRILLIANT ZERO, & ELEVATOR



above photo by Rosalind Wyman, others by Kevin Gentile

From left to right, Elevator, Brilliant Zero, Amateur (twice), and second place 2002 Battle of the Bands winners, Second to Mecca. The Common's jam packed with bands and love every Thursday.



Live this Thursday - Stolen Bike Crusade, the Cool Kids, Troma Style, Twisted Animation, Seconds Away

What is there to do on campus this week?

by Robert Harris Blatt
Connector Editor

Hey everyone, your friendly
Arts and Entertainment Editor

here. Here's a few reminders
about what's going on with the
section and around campus this
week.

On Wednesday is the "Women

Who Rock" show featuring
Mary Lou Lord, Brie Sullivan,
and Aubergine, amongst more
female acts. It's in the Fox MPR
at 8:00.

Also, The Off Broadway
Players present *The Mystery of
Edwin Drood* starts this weekend
over in the Mahoney
Auditorium. This is a great

musical and the Off Broadway
Players rarely disappoint. You
can catch it Friday, Saturday and
Sunday nights.

All Mixed up at the Palladium

311 invades Worcester with Hoobastank



by Kevin Gentile
Connector Staff

A capacity crowd was on its
feet as Nick Hexum from the
band 311 told the crowd and his
bass player, "It's about time for
P-Nut to beat that thing!"
Famous words from their show-
stopping concert closer, "Feels
So Good", which always gets the

mosh pit started into a frenzy of
fists and shoves during their
most intense song. This was the
atmosphere of the Worcester
Palladium as 311 and tour mates
Hoobastank hit the stage on
March 30th, 2002, as part of
311's Chaos Tour 02.

Hoobastank took the stage
with "Up and Gone" and contin-
ued with such melodic and
catchy songs like "Let You
Know", "Ready for You", and
"Better". Hoobastank is an
alternative band out of
California that have been togeth-
er since 1995, but just recently
released their first major label
album, which I highly recom-
mend if you want something
relaxing, but at the same time
powerful. Their music is com-
monly compared to a lighter
touch of Incubus with a lot more
melody involved. In any case,
they are an intense rush of ener-
gy when onstage, and even bet-
ter the second time around see-
ing them. Through the middle
of the set, they played their hit
song, "Crawling in the Dark." In
reaction, the crowd of mostly
teenagers who probably saw

them on MTV, went wild.

Hoobastank is bands that is
rumored to possibly perform for
Umass Lowell's Spring
Carnival, and if they do appear I
am sure it will be an excellent
show.

When the lights went out and
311 appeared on the well-illumi-
nated stage, I could barely even
hear my friend that was yelling
in my ear next to me. This
Nebraskan amalgam of hip hop,
reggae, rock and punk, comman-
deers a large following wherever
they turn up. And with more
than ten years of sold out con-
certs under their belt, they have
earned it. 311 place anyone they
attract to their show into a
euphoric and happy mood.
Their act can start off with relax-
ing tunes like the new single
"Amber", but then a minute later
turn to some total in-your-face
rock like the aforementioned
song "Feels So Good". Their
set, which went on for close to
two hours, was packed with new
and old songs, which included
all their hit songs.

With six major label albums,
and countless other unreleased

and rare material, they have an
impressive song catalogue to
choose from. Such classic songs
as "Down", "Do You Right",
and "Beautiful Disaster" got the
whole crowd to sing along. The
normal flow of a 311 show was
also present, as "All Mixed Up"
was performed with trademark
Disco Balls, and "Champagne"
was done with bubbles released
into the crowd. The highlight
song of the show was "Applied
Science", as the whole band
dropped their instruments for
some Congo drums halfway
through the song and break out
into a 5 minute drum feature
lead by their outstanding drum-
mer Chad Sexton. 311 is always
one to impress with their like-
able songs and stellar perform-
ance, and I urge everyone to
attend their psychedelic act next
time they are in town.

Photos by Kevin Gentile

311 and Hoobastank came to the
Palladium this past Saturday, at far
left, Hoobastank, below, Nick
Hexum of 311 and below that, all of
311, complete with some drums.
The neighbors weren't very happy.



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The COMIC Vortex

PROJECT: MUTANIMAL OPERATION: ICE QUEST

Spifyra has accepted his past, and now quests for the Mantle of Ice.

He must travel to the very tip of Thera's frozen north pole.

As a phoenix, he has the innate ability to create massive amounts of heat.

Damn this wind...

The snow rapidly melts beneath his feet, as he walks.

After days of walking through the snow, Spifyra comes to a valley.

But his heat begins to melt the virgin layer of snow atop the mountains...

...which triggers an avalanche!!!

NO!!!

The phoenix is completely covered by the snow...but wait!!!

A small column of steam begins to rise from the mountain of snow.

The snow rapidly melts away revealing a slightly shaken Spifyra underneath.

c'C can't stop p now....

Nearly killed and then saved by his heat factor, Spifyra continues his quest.

STAY TUNED!!!

BRAZEN: Episode 19- Third Impact

As Kavas' axe is about to fall, Windrift steps in and blocks the axe with his own.

Tatyana shoots an arrow at Kavas, and it finds its target. Kavas the Mighty™ steps back.

Windrift & Tatyana help Quelon to his feet.

Kavas looks on with anger and excitement.

This is how it is eh? Fine! I'll fight all three of you. Prepare to die!

Comments send to Vega99_02155@yahoo.com Brendan Fayle class of "2003" A Brendan Fayle & Mike Lai production

Hanging Around by Robert H. Blatt

Hmmmm... So how should I word this? I'll go for the smooth, not too direct approach.

Hey Mary, do you want to hang out on Saturday night?

Of course!

Sweet!

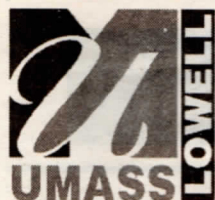
Can my friend Ann come along?

Uh oh...

BUDDY SHMIDT by Sean Conway

Just Plain Dumb Dave Carlson

Julie told the mirror on the wall that she was the greatest of them all and the mirror did not like that.



CAMPUS CALENDAR

To add your event here, e-mail connector@uml.edu, attn: Calendar Editor

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



2	3	4	5	6
Career Week				
Connector Meeting Fox 426 @ 6PM	Mass. Health Fair: Looming Crisis and Opportunity Coburn 205 3PM- 4:30PM	STOLEN BIKE CRUSADE COOL KIDS TROMA STYLE TWISTED ANIMATION SECONDS AWAY Fox Common @ 8PM	"Hate Kills" Tombstone display in South Campus Quad Student Leadership Award Nominations Due by 4:00 PM. Call ext. 5001 for info.	Hunger Clean-Up, South Campus Quad, 10 AM UML Baseball vs. Assumption College NOON (DH)
FEAR NO PEOPLE WEEK				

Don't forget to see the Dynamics of Forgetting and Screen Memories by Kathy Marmor at the at the Univeristy Gallery February 27th thru April 3rd

7 Protestant Service Fox 301 6 PM\	8 Spectrum Meeting @3:30PM call x-5078 SGA Finance Committee Meeting McGauvran 334 4PM	9 Connector Meeting Fox 426 @ 6PM Jackson Katz "more than a few good men" Lowell Memorial Aud. @10 AM	10 AA Meeting McGauvran Room 410 12:00 PM SGA Meeting McGauvran Room 334 4:00 PM	11 King Friday Side Project Sudden Ease Fox Common @8PM	12 Public Speaking "Club" Ball 326 3:30 PM UML Baseball @ Merrimack College 3:30 PM	13
14 Protestant Service Fox 301 6 PM\	15 Spectrum Meeting @3:30PM call x-5078 SGA Finance Committee Meeting McGauvran 334 4PM	16 Senior Week Tickets!! 10% off from 11AM- 1PM @ Southwick Commuter Lounge Connector Meeting Fox 426 @ 6PM	17 UML Baseball vs. Bentley @ 6PM	18 CALL THE HAWK TALK LINE EXT. 5700 TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!	19 Public Speaking "Club" Ball 326 3:30 PM Softball vs. New York Tech. 3:30 PM	20 UML Baseball @ STONEHILL NOON (DH)

FEAR NO PEOPLE WEEK: APRIL 1 - 5, 2002

April 2

- "Who Are We?"

O'Leary 222 @ 10:00 am

- Clothesline Project

McGauvran 2nd floor

@ 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

- U.S. Policy on War and Terrorism

Coburn 205 @ 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm

- Exploring Roots of Violence and Discovering Seeds of Peace;

Coburn 205 @ 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

April 3

- Hate Crime Discussion

McGauvran 410 @ 1:00 pm

- "Dive-In" Movie: *The Birdcage* starring

Robin Williams

Costello Pool @ 7:00 pm

- Women Who Rock! Show

Sponsored by WJUL

Fox MPR @ 8:00 pm \$4

April 4

- Culture Fest

Cumnock Auditorium @ 6:00 pm -

8:00 pm

Career Fashion Show

Fox MPR @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

-Dance the Night Away in Style

Fox MPR @ 9:30 pm - midnight

April 9

-Jackson Katz: "More Than a Few Good

Men: Lecture on American Manhood and Violence Against Women"

Lowell Memorial Auditorium

Speaker Panel @ 9:00 am

Lecture @ 10:00 am - 11:30 am

April 11

- Working for Change: Revolutionary

Association of the

Women of

Afghanistan

McGauvran 410 @ 3:30 - 5:30 pm

CLASSIFIEDS

For info on Classifieds:
Call 978-934-5009

HELP WANTED

Are you certified in CPR and First Aid? Are you looking to make money and gain health service experience on campus? Consider becoming a UMass Lowell EMT! Call ext. 5010 for more info. Who knows? Maybe soon you'll be driving to class in an ambulance!

Work on campus. Meet new people. Add to your resume. Write for the *Connector*. Call 978-934-5009 for more information or e-mail connector@uml.edu. We're always looking for help!

(Yes, we need people to take pictures too!)

MISCELLANEOUS

Fraternities * Sororities Clubs * Student Groups

Earn \$1,000-\$2,000 this semester with the easy CampusFundRaiser.com three hour fundraising vent. **Does not involve credit card applications.** Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact CampusFundraiser.com at (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

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Healthy women 32ish or younger to donate eggs for infertile couple. **Significant monetry compensation.** Some medical procedures required. Anonymus. Professional licensed Medical Center. Mention this ad to: Danielle, 781-942-7000 x613

LOST & FOUND

LOST!! SET OF KEYS!!

I key ring, 1 silver key, 1 gold key. Thought to be lost in N. Campus Parking Lot. If found, please turn in to N. Campus Police Station. THANK YOU!

the Hawk Talkline

Speak your mind!

See Opinions and Letters pages for more information, or just call:

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Roommate Wanted

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EVENTS

FREE SHOW!
Every Thursday night in the Fox Common, starting around 8 PM. Be there!

Static Mind

at the Sky Bar in Boston, Tuesday April 2nd at 9:00 PM
21+ Show

EVENTS

Attention: Student Bands!

If you've got a big gig coming up off campus, feel free to advertise here! Call ext. 5009 for rates and more specific information.

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Baseball Home Game Series This Week

Wednesday, April 3 at 3:30 pm - vs. Bryant
Thursday, April 4 at 4:00 pm - vs. Dowling College
Saturday, April 6 at noon - vs. Assumption College (DH)

All games held at LeLacheur Park.
All games are FREE!

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Softball Hopes



Photo by Rosalind Wyman

The UMass Lowell softball team is looking forward to a great season. The NE-10 coaches' poll placed them in sixth place in the conference.

The team recently was victorious over St. Rose in a double-header, but fell to

LeMoyne in another DH.

The Lady River Hawks have an away game series against Bryant, American International College, Pace, and Assumption before returning home later this month.

BASEBALL, cont'd from back page.

on Monday to start the week. On Wednesday, they return to LeLacheur against Bryant at 3:30. On Thursday, they play at home against Dowling College at 4 p.m. On Saturday, they play a double header at home vs. Assumption College starting at 1 p.m. Finally, on Sunday, they're at Southern Connecticut for a double header.

The River Hawks will need to keep up a strong momentum this week. Their first couple weeks may determine what the rest of the sea-

son will look like. So far, they're doing fine, but need to strengthen up just a little bit. They may need to look to their enormous pitching entourage (P Mike Nugent is 6' 7", P Steve Palazzollo is 6' 8"), all of whom are strong on the pitcher's mound, plus a little back up from their fiercely disciplined infield (the opener against St. Rose had something like four double plays).

Be sure to check out a home game or two; you won't be disappointed.

Wanted:

- Who: YOU!!! UML Students
- What: UML's Center for Family, Work & Community is hosting a program that will bring local youth in Lowell to the Campus for a week long Enviro-Camp.
- What else: One of the activities include, giving walking tours of the North & South Campus. This is where YOU come in... We need a few good volunteers to show the youth what UML is all about! (perhaps they might apply here in the future)
- Where: Right on Campus
- When: Tuesday April 16 & Wednesday April 17

If you're interested please give us a call. (978) 934-4676.

GRADUATING SENIORS

Wanted: Energetic, high-achieving students from Liberal Arts, Sciences and Engineering to apply to a new MBA model beginning Fall 2002. This 19-month program is designed for students with or without full-time work experience and blends a first year of academic coursework with a second year of corporate-sponsored field projects. For more details call 603-826-1367 or stop by Room 116 McConnell Hall.

Apply to: The Whittemore School of Business and Economics

www.mba.unh.edu



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Immediate opening for a Project Manager in a small manufacturing company in Northern New Hampshire. Must have experience in marketing, production line, expediting skill, candidate must be entrepreneurial and have the ability to create executive for the Strength in plans and desirable.

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This position requires experience in financial planning and analysis. Will also be responsible for the overall financial health of the company.

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Seeking an accounting professional to manage our Accounting Department and be an integral part of our financial team.

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Established practice seeks professional to manage small but growing business. Equity potential. Interest in financial planning.

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Position requires analytical skills and the ability to conduct research. We are seeking a professional to manage all aspects of the business. We are seeking a professional to manage all aspects of the business.

Chancellor's Medals

Chancellor's Medal Applications are now available in the Offices of Student Services, Student Activities, Registrar, College of Arts & Sciences (North & South), College of Engineering, College of Health Professions, and the College of Management.

Please note that the deadline to submit your application (including letters of recommendation) is **Friday, April 5, 2002 at Noon.**

Applications and recommendations must be submitted to the Office of Student Services, a one complete packet.

GAME TO WATCH

Wednesday, April 3
Men's Tennis vs.
Assumption at 3:30 PM

Sports

For Other
Upcoming Games

Call 934-HAWK

Tuesday April 2, 2002

Baseball has ups and downs



Photo by Rob Vellella
David Williamson prepares to step into the batter's box in last Saturday's game against the College of St. Rose.

River Hawks split two double-headers last weekend

UML BASEBALL

by Rob Vellella
Connector Editor

The UML baseball team had a 50-50 split weekend, nabbing a win and a loss from two teams on Friday and Saturday.

Friday the River Hawks had a double-header at American International College.

This was a powerful game for American International. Over the summer, AIC freshmen Brendan Grant has passed away during the summer. The 18-year old died after colliding with another player during a summer baseball game. Grant was ranked sixth at AIC for batting and had secured four home runs last season.

AIC was able to win the opener 3-2. However, the River Hawks sprang back in the second game, nabbing a punishing 13-3 win.

Saturday, the River Hawks returned to LeLachur Park for the first time this season for a double-header against the College of Saint Rose's Golden Knights.

UML took the opener with little

effort, continuing off of their overwhelming success in Friday night's game. They began their attack in the bottom of the second with 3 runs. From there, it seemed like a continuous cycle of RBI - a run here, a couple there. The Golden Knights picked up only one run and 6 hits in the game. The final score was 11-1, River Hawks.

A stand-out performance during the game came from new-comer Bobby "Deuce" Moulaison. For a freshmen, he really put in some hard effort, making the hits when needed and helping out his team. Keep an eye on this one.

The nightcap proved a little more difficult for UML. The team knew there would be trouble when St. Rose freshmen Jean-Francois DuFour shot one over the wall for a three-run home run in the fifth inning. Adding insult to injury, two batters later sophomore DH Matt Bertinetti

nailed a solo homer of his own. By the end of the fifth, the Golden Knights were ahead 5-2.

Despite some great effort on the field, the River Hawks never recovered. Pitcher David Oulette did what he could, adding several strike outs to his belt, and it really looked like they were playing towards a comeback in the last couple innings, but the final score was 6-2, St. Rose.

The River Hawks continued their season with a busy week. First, an away game against Franklin Pierce

See BASEBALL, cont'd on page 11.

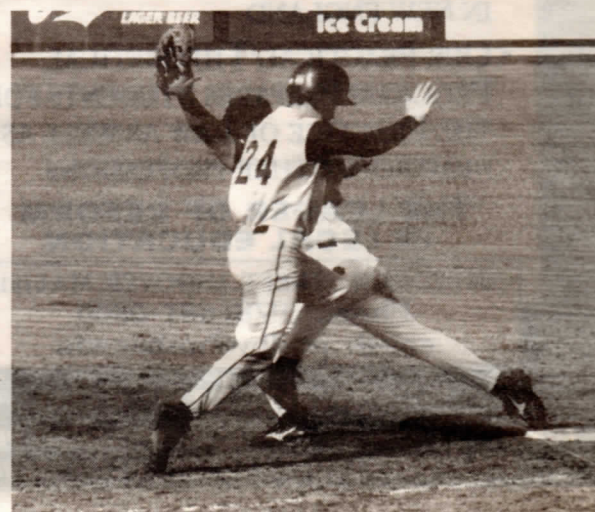


Photo by Rob Vellella
Allen Mottram makes the play at first base last Saturday.



Florida's Pastime

RED SOX BASEBALL

by Benjamin Hanson
Connector Staff

Attending Red Sox Spring Training this year was sort of an awakening for me. Rather than finding extreme interest in a bunch of minor leaguers struggling for major league jobs, I concentrated on the simple reverence that the people of the palms had for the game of baseball. Floridians are of an odd sort. Then again, they do have an uncanny love for the game like no other.

When driving to a Red Sox Spring Training game, you had better leave hours in advance. The trip to the ball field is more like a mass exodus than anything else. Cars are bumper to bumper on straight two-lane highways as far as the eye can see. Because Floridians have no state car inspection law, citizens and visitors believe they are permitted to drive anything that moves (and has at

least three wheels) to the game. So, broken down and beat up cars are strewn along the shoulder of the highway. Dodging wrecks is one skill necessary to attending a ballgame.

When entering the City of Palms Park in Fort Myers, you had better have your Visa card out. For some unimaginable reason, a bottle of water is one of the most expensive luxuries the park has to offer. Imagine paying five dollars for something that flows rather freely. Somewhere between the seventh inning stretch and the ninth inning, elderly and young people alike begin dropping like flies from heat exhaustion. There were five ambulances there the day I went, and for some reason the park officials didn't get a clue.

When purchasing a ticket, don't attempt to get too close to field and the players. Please, just find the shade. It is truly a spectacle to see 8,000 fans huddled together below a partial roof. The empty seats along the dugouts and behind home plate don't mean a thing to anyone. Floridians love their shade. I don't blame

them; the sun is utterly ruthless.

When something exciting on the field happens, don't expect the crowd to go wild. They don't stand up. They don't scream. They don't throw beer bottles. And they don't throw fists. These are respectable fans, and they would rather offer a healthy cheer and a few whistles than go overboard and get all sweaty. This is okay though. Sticking to the leather seat in your Jaguar can be tedious and agonizing at times.

When retreating home, you have to leave enough space between the car in front of you and your front bumper. This is the time when all are most vulnerable to vehicle accidents. And if you haven't heard by now, Florida drivers are by far the worst the world has to offer. In this state, the lesson "look before you leap" is overrated. People leap and then they end up crashing, running off the road, and rolling into ditches. A Red Sox loss can be easily forgotten hanging upside down in the seat of a flipped car.

Being there, in Florida, at a baseball field, with swaying palm trees surround-



Images courtesy of official Red Sox web site.

ing me was a memorable experience. I am not saying that the Red Sox weren't important to my Spring Training. But, my heart has given them plenty of chances and has been broken plenty of times. For those of you who want to know, Nana says, "The Red Sox are the same damn team as last year, making the same stupid mistakes. New management hasn't made a difference." But, this New Englander only lives in Florida three months out of the year. The locals, on the other hand, are a bit more optimistic.

Scores

Baseball

UML 11 St. Rose 1
UML 2 St. Rose 6

Softball

UML 5 Merrimack 1
UML 8 Merrimack 0

Men's Tennis

UML 2 St. Anselm 7
UML 0 St. Michael's 9

Upcoming River Hawk Games

Baseball

Wed. 4/3 UML vs. Bryant 3:30 pm
Thu. 4/4 UML vs. Dowling College 4:00 pm
Sat. 4/6 UML vs. Assumption (DH) noon

Softball

Mon. 4/1 UML @ Bryant College 3:30 pm
Thu. 4/4 UML @ AIC 2:30 pm

Men's Tennis

Wed. 4/3 UML vs. Assumption 3:30pm
Sat. 4/6 UML @ LeMoyne 1:00 pm
Tue. 4/9 UML vs. Bryant 3:30 pm

Check updates at www.goriverhawks.com

